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Applicants: Thomas R. Stanley

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I certify that this **Information Disclosure Statement** is being deposited on **January 10, 2002** with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Examiner: Not yet assigned

For: APPARATUS FOR
AUTOMATICALLY
STUFFING FOOD CASING

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following literature citations are being provided in compliance with Applicant's and his attorneys' duty of candor and good faith under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The citations are recorded on the accompanying Form PTO-1449. It is requested that the attached citations be entered and considered during further examination of this application. Copies of the references listed below are included herein. The relevance of each publication is as follows:

U.S. Patent 3,601,845 relates to a tapered food cut-off valve.

U.S. Patent 4,017,941 relates to a food stuffing machine having a meat cut-off valve.

U.S. Patent 4,044,425 relates to a food stuffing apparatus.

U.S. Patent 4,218,861 relates to a gathering and closing device for meat casing.

U.S. Patent 4,401,329 relates to a machine for tying knots on food casing.

U.S. Patent 4,539,796 relates to a food casing stuffing machine.

U.S. Patent 4,602,402 relates to a food casing stuffing machine.

U.S. Patent 4,612,684 relates to preformed loops that are clipped onto the end of a food casing link.

U.S. Patent 4,671,042 relates to a food casing stuffing machine.

U.S. Patent 4,694,537 relates to preformed loops that are clipped onto the end of a food casing link.

U.S. Patent 4,709,450 relates to an apparatus and method for stuffing food casing.

U.S. Patent 4,712,273 relates to a vane rotor that acts as a food cut-off device.

U.S. Patent 4,720,010 relates to preformed loops that are clipped onto the end of a food casing link.

U.S. Patent 4,773,128 relates to a food stuffing machine.

U.S. Patent 4,847,951 relates to an automatic sausage filling apparatus.

U.S. Patent 5,100,364 relates to preformed loops that are clipped onto the end of a food casing link.

U.S. Patent 5,147,239 relates to a sausage filling machine.

U.S. Patent 5,203,759 relates to preformed loops that are clipped onto the end of a food casing link.

U.S. Patent 5,269,116 relates to preformed loops that are clipped onto the end of a food casing link.

U.S. Patent 5,405,288 relates to a gathering and clipping device for food casing.

U.S. Patent 5,755,022 relates to preformed loops that are clipped onto the end of a food casing link.

U.S. Patent 5,890,955 relates to a conveyor food casing from a stuffing machine.

British Patent 1,576,718 relates to retractable conveyors.

Canadian Patent 884,820 relates to a closing tool for a sausage casing.

Canadian Patent 986,871 relates to a retractable conveyor.

Canadian Patent 1,213,779 relates to a food casing stuffing machine.

European Patent 0 021 188A1 relates to food casing with clips.

European Patent 0 570 253A1 relates to gathering and tying food casing.

European Patent 0 937 403A1 relates to food packaging and clipping.

European Patent 1 042 957 relates to a gatherer-clipper for food casing.

French Patent 2,587,006 relates to a retractable conveyor.

French Patent 2,620,902 relates to a food casing stuffing machine.

French Patent 2,693,429 relates to a retractable conveyor.

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Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures

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